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April 11, 2003

Paul C. Besozzi 202-457-5292 pbesozzi@pattonboggs.com

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mary L. Cottrell
Secretary
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: <u>D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-88/97-18 (Phase II) – Motion For Further</u> Extension Of Time To File Comments

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Enclosed for filing is a "Motion For Further Extension Of Time To File Comments" from the New England Public Communications Council, Inc.

An extra copy of the Motion is enclosed to be stamped "filed" or "received" and returned in the enclosed envelope.

Sincerely yours,

Paul C. Besozzi PCB/tmc

Enclosures

cc: Service List

Washington DC North

Before the Department of Telecommunications and Energy Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Investigation by the Department of
Telecommunications and Energy on its
own motion regarding (1) implementation)
of Section 276 of the Telecommunications)
Act of 1996 relative to Public Interest
Payphones, (2) Entry and Exit Barriers
for the Payphone Marketplace, (3) New
England Telephone and Telegraph
Company d/b/a NYNEX's Public Access)
Smart-Pay Line Service, and (4) the rate
policy for operator service providers.

D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-88/97-18 (Phase II)

Motion For Further Extension Of Time To File Comments

On February 21, 2003, the Hearing Officer issued a Memorandum requesting, among other things, that (a) Verizon-Massachusetts ("Verizon") file certain proposed revised PAL and PASL rates on March 3, 2003 and (b) that the New England Public Communications Council, Inc ("NEPCC") and other interested parties file initial comments on two questions raised in the memorandum by March 14, 2003; reply comments were to be due by March 21, 2003. Pursuant to Motions granted by the Hearing Officer on March 5, 2003 and March 24, 2003, those dates were extended to April 14, 2003 and April 28, 2003, respectively.

In accordance with Section 1.02(5) of the Department's Procedural Rules, 220 CMR Section 102(5), the NEPCC respectfully moves for an additional brief extension of three (3) days, so that the deadlines for filing comments would be further extended to Thursday, April 17, 2003 and Thursday, May 1, 2003, respectively. The NEPCC seeks this additional extension because both NEPCC's counsel and its expert have been unable to consult and finalize Initial Comments for much of the

last ten (10) days due to schedule conflicts. In light of the extensive time and resources already expended in this proceeding to date, this brief additional time is warranted because it would not prejudice any of the parties in this proceeding. Counsel for Verizon has authorized the undersigned counsel to represent that she has no objection to this request for additional time. Further, the undersigned counsel is not aware of any objections that might be raised by any other interested party to the brief further proposed extension requested.

WHEREFORE, the NEPCC respectfully moves that the time to file comments in accordance with the Memorandum be extended to Thursday, April 17, 2003 for initial comments and Thursday, May 1, 2003 for reply comments.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW ENGLAND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL, INC.

Paul C. Besozzi

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Paul C. Besozzi, hereby certify that I have this 11th day of April 2003, served a copy of the foregoing "Motion For Further Extension Of Time To File Comments" in MDTE Docket D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-88/97-18 (Phase II), upon the following parties by electronic and first class mail or overnight courier:

Kevin F. Penders, Hearing Officer

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Faul C. Besozzi